(c) whether the Delhi Government has urged the Central Government to cancel licences of those LPG dealers who have supplied underweight cylinders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATUKAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Government of Delhi has informed that the Department of Weights and Measures, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi inspected 177 LPG distributors in the capital in the months of January and February, 1995 under the provisions of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977. Out of these, 64 distributors were found violating the aforesaid provisions and penal action against them has already been initiated under the Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985.

(c) and (d) The Government of Delhi has inter-alia suggested action against the distributors as per the terms of licence. Necessary action is taken against defaulting distributors. under the terms of licence and marketing discipline guidelines.

ऑयल स्टैबलाईजेशन फंड की स्थापना

1393. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :**
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने ऑयल स्टैबलाइजेशन फंड की स्थापना करने का निश्चय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उक्त निधि के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर अपनी सिफारिशें देने के लिए सरकार ने एक उच्चाधिकार प्राप्त समिति का भी गठन किया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इस समिति ने सरकार को अपनी सिफारिशें प्रस्तुत कर दी हैं ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इन सिफारिशों का ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो समिति की सिफारिशें कब तक प्राप्त होने की संभावना है ; और

(ङ) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस कोष का सभी बहुराष्ट्रीय तेल कंपनियों सहित तेल उद्योग में कार्यरत संगठनों को सहायता उपलब्ध कराने के लिए इस्तेमाल करने का भी निर्णय लिया गया है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) से (ङ) फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन नहीं है ।

Deal with British Gas for supply of LPG in Mumbai

1394. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a deal has been finalised between the British Gas and Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) for supplying LPG to Mumbai gas consumers through pipelines;

(b) what is the number of gas distributors operating in Mumbai and the number of consequential employees, such as office staff and delivery boys, employed by the gas distributors; and

(c) what are Government's plans for rehabilitating the gas dealers as well as their employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) and British Gas will be jointly implementing a project for the distribution of natural gas through pipelines in the Bombay area. There is no proposal to supply LPG through pipelines.

(b) and (c) At present 135 LPG distributors are operating in Bombay. Oil Companies will explore ways to readjust the area of gas dealers wherever feasible.

Route of the Oman-India gas pipeline

1395. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the route of the Oman-India gas pipeline has been changed;

(b) if so, what are the final financial and physical details of the project and how do these compare with the original one; and

(c) by when the work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The route of the Oman-India gas pipeline will be finalised after the detailed survey of the ocean bed which is in progress. The Oman Oil Company has indicated in investment of USD 5 billion on the project. The first pipeline to carry 28.3 MMSCMD of gas is targetted to be commissioned by mid-1999.

Proposal to accelerate oil exploration programme

1396. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to accelerate oil exploration programme during the current plan period;

(b) if so, the initiative taken in that direction;

(c) whether any new strategy is proopsed to be adopted therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Government have approved an Accelerated Exploration Programme to be implemented during 1994—97 at an estimated cost of Rs. 6500 crores. Its major components are:—

(i) Exploration in the deep water areas.

(ii) National seismic programme.

(iii) Exploration in frontier areas.

(iv) Acquisition of acreages abroad

A part of this exploration effort is contemplated to be carried out through joint ventures between ONGC/OIL and private oil companies.

Import of aviation turbine fuel

1397. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of imported vis-a-vis indigenous Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) per kiloliter;

(b) whether Government are planning to stop the import of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF);

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) its impact on the operation cost of airlines operating in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH SHARMA): (a) The ceiling selling ex-storage point price of ATF is Rs. 9852.33/KL exclusive of Excise duties. The domestic prices of petroleum products are not always comparable with the international prices